surplus (20 per cent), non-debt creating capital flows (40 per cent), currency valuation (17 per cent) and debt-creating capital inflows (23 per cent).

World Bank's concern over fiscal deficit

1255. SHRI B.J. PANDA: Will the Minister of FINANCE AND COMPANY AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether World Bank has warned India on fiscal deficit and slow reforms and has issued directives for speeding up reforms as reported in The Indian Express of 7th December, 2002;

(b) if so, what are the detailed directives of the West Bengal and kind of weakness that have been pointed out by the Bank; and

(c) whether any goal that has been set by the World Bank in reforms and how much progress has been made to achieve the objective?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE AND COMPANY AFFAIRS (SHRI ANANDRAO VITHOBA ADSUL): (a) to (c) The World Bank in its India Country Assistance Strategy (CAS) Progress Report discussed by its Board of Executive Directors, on 5th December, 2002 has, while acknowledging the good progress made by India in reducing poverty and improving education indicators during the last decade, observed that India needs to accelerate its efforts in order to meet the Millennium Development Goals. These goals are a set of poverty and human development targets agreed upon by the international community to be achieved by the year 2015. The Bank has further observed that raising economic growth to the Government of India's target level is unlikely to be achieved without substantial progress in fiscal consolidation and faster structural reform.

Government is conscious of the need for containing fiscal deficit, accelerating the process of reforms and economic development. Various reform measures are being taken by the Government since 1991, aimed at accelerating economic growth, and reducing the level of poverty. The policies and programmes announced through the Union Budget and the Tenth Five-Year Plan are tuned towards this end.